

B. Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-17, 21 and 23-71 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 18 and 22 as follows. The listing of all claims in this application is provided.

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) An element ~~as set forth in claim 16~~ having a surface at least a part of which is provided with a polymer compound,

wherein said polymer compound is a material that is:

(a) either soluble in a solvent or has a main skeletal structure different from a material composing at least a portion of said part of said surface;

(b) comprised of a first part having a functional group and a second part having an interfacial energy different from that of said functional group and approximately equal to a surface energy of said part of said surface;

(c) obtained by:

(i) finely fractionalizing a polymer by a catalyst for polymer cleavage to obtain fractionalized products comprising a constituent monomer of the polymer and/or a shorter chain of the polymer;

(ii) orienting the fractionalized products such that said second part is oriented toward said part of said surface and said first part is oriented in a direction different from that in which said second part is oriented; and

(iii) bonding the oriented fractionalized products to each other; and

(d) provided on the surface after said fractionalizing, orienting and bonding,

wherein said part of said surface of said element is composed of an olefinic resin and said polymer compound is a polyalkylsiloxane having a hydrophilic group.

19. (Previously Presented) An element as set forth in claim 18, wherein said hydrophilic group is polyalkylene oxide.

20. (Original) An element as set forth in claim 18, wherein said olefinic resin is polypropylene or polyethylene and said polyalkylsiloxane having said hydrophilic group is (polyoxyalkylene)-poly(dimethylsiloxane).

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) An element as set forth in claim ~~[[21]]~~ 18, wherein ~~said substance is~~ a coloring material, which is capable of reacting with the functional group of the first part, is introduced into said part of said surface by being reacted with said functional group.

23-71. (Cancelled)